

**James Madison to John Armstrong, July 2, 1814.
Transcription: The Writings of James Madison,
ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons,
1900-1910.**

TO JOHN ARMSTRONG. MAD. MSS.

July 2, 1814.

In analogy to the arrangement yesterday decided on in¹ reference to this City and Baltimore, and with a view to a systematic provision against invading armaments, the Secretary of War will digest and report to the President corresponding precautionary means of defence in reference to the other more

¹ The plan of defense of Washington and Baltimore was decided upon in Cabinet July 1st and the following estimate of force was made. It is found among the copies made by Madison's direction for the statement he prepared in 1824 in reply to General Armstrong's communication printed in 1821 in the *Literary and Scientific Repository*. The letter is from the same source.

Estimate of force and preparation for defence of the City, made up in Cabinet meeting July 1, 1814.

Cavalry City of Washington 120

Ditto, from Carlisle say 200

Regular infantry 1,000

District ditto 1,000

Library of Congress

Marines 120

District artillery 200

2,640

Of Barney's corps 500

3,140

10,000 militia to be designated & held in readiness 10,000 Arms and Camp equipage to be brought forward for use. Survey of the grounds &c.

important & exposed places along the Atlantic frontier; particularly Boston, New York, Wilmington, Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah and New Orleans. In addition to the distribution at suitable Depots, of arms and other necessities, the Secretary will report, a circular communication to the Governors of the several States, calculated to obtain from them convenient designations of adequate portions of their Militia, with every other arrangement depending on the State Executives for having them in the best readiness for actual service in cases of emergency.